

# Preface

Zoltán Hórvölgyi / Éva Kiss / Etelka Tombácz  
guest editors

This special issue of *Periodica Polytechnica Chemical Engineering* is devoted to papers presented in the 10<sup>th</sup> jubilee Colloid Chemistry Conference organized in Budapest in 2012.

Colloidal, lately denoted as nanoparticulate and nano-structured systems occupy an important role among the innovative material systems that are engineered to promote sustainable development and a liveable future. Colloid particles, novel in size, shape or surface chemistry, offer attractive functional properties for a range of formulated products, from drug delivery system to coatings and cosmetics. Nanotechnologies provide a wide variety of economic benefits in the field of nanoformulation, sensors, imaging and diagnostics.

The motto of the conference was “Innovative systems for sustainable development” reflecting to the focus of the Europe

2020, the growth strategy of EU for the coming decade which announced the *Smart, sustainable and inclusive economy* initiative among the main priorities.

The papers collected into this special volume represent various areas of colloid and surface chemistry providing a good overview on the latest achievements apparent in research and application of this area of science. All of the contributions demonstrate that there are versatile ways to add new values, advanced features and unique properties of bulk or dispersed materials which can significantly improve their performance taking into account the environmental aspects, too. Examples from different surface modifications, coating technologies to novel preparation methods of dispersed and biocolloid systems support this consideration.